

**San Antonio, TX** - Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23), a member of the House Veteran's Affairs Committee, will present Dr. John J. Garcia with the Disabled American Veterans' National Commander's Outstanding VA Employee award at 1 p.m. on Sunday, October 19.

Garcia, the chief medical officer at the Frank Tejada VA Outpatient Clinic in San Antonio, will receive the award for Veterans Health Administration employees in recognition of his compassionate care of some of the most severely injured service members and veterans wounded in countries including Iraq and Afghanistan.

“Garcia is a dedicated public servant, said Rodriguez. “This award is a testament to his hard work and service on behalf of our nation's veterans.”

The 1.4 million-member Disabled American Veterans, a non-profit organization founded in 1920 and chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1932, represents this nation's wartime disabled veterans. It is dedicated to a single purpose: building better lives for our nation's disabled veterans and their families. For more information, visit the organization's Web site <http://www.dav.org/>.

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**WHO:** Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23)

**WHAT:** Presents Dr. Garcia with National Commander's Outstanding VA Employee award

**WHEN:** SUNDAY, October 19, 2008, 1:00 - 1:15 p.m.

**WHERE:** MacArthur Park Pavilion Four

1611 NE Loop 410

San Antonio, TX 78209